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JUN 05 2006

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## FAX

DATE: June 5, 2006 Our Ref.: 10/681,979  
(HALB02301)

TO: Examiner Philip C. Tucker

CO.: USPTO Art Unit 1712

FAX #: 571 273 8300 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Karen Tripp

RE: Response to FINAL office action

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PAGES: 10 (including coversheet)

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PTO/SB/21 (08-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031  
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FORM

(To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

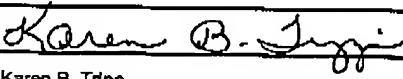
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 8

Application Number	10/681,979
Filing Date	October 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	CARL JOSEPH THAEMLITZ
Art Unit	1712
Examiner Name	TUCKER, PHILIP C.
Attorney Docket Number	HALB-023D1

## ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

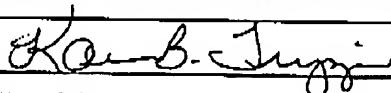
## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Karen B. Tripp, Attorney at Law		
Signature			
Printed name	Karen B. Tripp		
Date	June 5, 2006	Reg. No.	30,452

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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Signature



Typed or printed name

Karen B. Tripp

Date

June 5, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Jun 05 06 07:59p

Karen B. Tripp, Attorney 713-658-9410

p.3

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Examiner: TUCKER, PHILIP C.  
Carl Joseph Thaemlitz ) Art Unit: 1712  
Serial No.: 10/681,979 )  
Filed: October 9, 2003 )  
For: Electrically Conductive )  
Oil-Based Mud )

Mail Stop AF  
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June 5, 2006  
Date

  
Karen B. Tripp

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED MAY 17, 2006**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper;
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper; and
- **Conclusion** begins on page 7 of this paper.

No fee is believed due for this amendment and no extension of time is believed needed for this response. However, the Commissioner is requested to grant any extension of time determined to be due and is authorized to charge the fee for same and any other fees that may be due for this application (including any fees determined to be due for the amendment) (except the issue fee) to undersigned's deposit account, 50-0807.

Please amend the application as follows: